To His Grace, His Majesty's High Commissioner, and the Right Honourable the Estates of Parliament.

The humble Representation and Petition of the Council-General of the Company of *Scotland* Trading to *Africa* and the *Indies*.

May it please your Grace and Right Honourable Estates,

WHEREAS, By our former Petition, of the 16*th.* of *May* last, We laid a Representation of the then Circumstances of our Company's Affairs, before your Grace and Right Honourable Estates: Which being once read, and nothing done thereupon, we now humbly entreat, that the same, still lying in the Clerks Hands, may, at this time, be again read and considered in Parliament: And do further Represent, That, since that time, we have the Melancholly Assurance of what we then feared from the constant Course of our Discouragements, that the Governour of *Carthagena*, for the King of *Spain*, His Majesty's Ally, has, from the Unneighbourly Instigation of those, from whom we ought more reasonably to have expected Assistance, been encouraged to make an Attempt for dispossessing our Colony of *Caledonia*; And in order thereunto, Blockaded them up by Sea, and attacked them by Land, in the time of profound Peace, and that some of our said Colony being too easily frighten'd, by their Apprehensions of those evil Consequences that they thought must necessarly have attended the many Discouragements, and want of Protection which we laboured under all along, have unwarrantably taken upon them the Power, to surrender our Company's said Settlement to the *Spaniards*, to the unspeakable Loss and great Dishonour of the Nation, and that the *West-India* Proclamations, mention'd in our former Petition, being still as much in Force, and rigorously executed, as ever, against us, we could not all this time, nor cannot as yet, expect the Liberty even of carrying off our Ships, that are lying perishing at *Port-Royal* in *Jamaica*, and *Amboy-Perth* in *East-Jersey*, without your Interposition on our Company's behalf, for procuring to us Warrants from His Majesty, directed to the respective Governours of those Parts for that effect; especially since the Governour of *Jamaica* has, at several times, and to several Persons, declared, That he will not part with our Company's Ship the *Saint-Andrew*, without a special Warrant from *England*, and that all our Solicitations to the Secretaries of State for that end, have hitherto proved ineffectual.

And we cannot but likewise Represent to your Grace and Right Honourable Estates, how that the want of due Protection to our Company all along, and the continued Tract of Encroachments upon its Priviledges Abroad, without any Redress therein, has encouraged even some Persons to break in upon the Priviledges of our Company at Home.

MAY it therefore please Your Grace and Right Honourable Estates, to take the Contents of this and our former Petition above-mention'd into your most serious Consideration, to take such Effectual Measures as, in your Profound Wisdom, you shall think fit, for Asserting and Vindicating our Company's Rights, both abroad and at home, for enabling it to Prosecute its lawful Undertakings, for procuring Reparation from the *Spaniards* and others for the Dammages sustained, and for preventing the like Encroachments for the future,

Signed at Edinburgh *the* 28*th. day of* October 1700, *in Name, Presence, and by Warrant of the said Council-General, By*

JOHN SCHAW. I. P. C. G.

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